

What is claimed is:

*Sub a1*

1. A lottery system utilizing an electronic mail, comprising:  
    sending an electronic mail in which a unique access key is affixed to one of a plurality of specified participants;  
    selecting an application for a lottery on the basis of said unique access key from each of said participants, and  
    notifying said plurality of participants of a result of said lottery.

2. The lottery system according to claim 1,  
    wherein said result of said lottery is obtained by a drawing performed when said participant applies for said lottery.

3. The lottery system according to claim 1,  
    wherein the result of said lottery is presented before said electronic mail is sent.

4. The lottery system according to claim 1,  
    wherein a discrimination of the application for said lottery is performed by use of said access key and a destination mail address of said electronic mail.

5. The lottery system according to claim 1,  
    wherein said access key is an address of an electronic mail sent back by said participant.

6. The lottery system according to claim 5,  
wherein the result of said lottery is performed by  
notifying a URL of a page informing the result and an access  
keyword, using an electronic mail.

6. The lottery system according to claim 5,  
notifying said participant of a URL of a page via  
electronic mail, where said page holds the result of said lottery  
as well as an access keyword.

7. The lottery system according to claim 6,  
wherein the URL of the page informing said result is  
separated into one for a winner of a prize and the other for a  
loser in winning the prize.

8. The lottery system according to claim 6,  
wherein by entering said access keyword and an mail address  
to which said access keyword is sent into the page informing said  
result, a page for the winner of the prize and a page of the loser  
in winning the prize can be accessed.

9. The lottery system according to claim 1,  
wherein said access key is a keyword either in a URL of a  
page for application or in a specified URL; and  
when said participant accesses said URL, said user can  
access a URL informing the result of the lottery.

10. The lottery system according to claim 9,  
wherein a destination mail address of said electronic mail,  
which is entered in said URL, is used for discrimination.

11. The lottery system according to claim 1,

wherein data of said participant who applied for the  
lottery is collected and stored.

12. A lottery system according to claim 1, wherein said  
lottery system is entirely incorporated into a computer system.

Q1  
Concl.

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